

PROCIB-M-7
3 March 1959

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

COMMITTEE ON PROCUREMENT OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

Minutes of the Seventh Meeting, 24 February 1959

MEMBERS PRESENT

AGRIC	- Foster E. Mohrhardt	
AIR	- Maj. George Kudravetz	
ARMY	- Henry Holz	
AEC	- Mrs. Doris M. Freer	
LC	- Lewis C. Coffin	
NSA		25X9A8
NSF	- Paul S. Feinstein	
STATE	- Leo M. Goodman John J. Morrow, Alternate	
USIA	- L. King Quan	
CIA	- [REDACTED]	Chairman 25X1A9a Secretary

VISITORS:

STATE	- Charles E. Paine	
CIA	- [REDACTED]	25X1A9a

1. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the sixth meeting were approved, with the following changes requested by the State member. Paragraph 2, delete phrase "and Jennings Wood of LC" from 2nd sentence. Paragraph 4, add phrase "Mr. Goodman suggested that" at beginning of 5th sentence, in front of "Earlier" instructions...".

2. Discussion of Possibility for Publications Exchange with Communist China. The Agriculture member presented the problems he faces in trying to acquire publications by exchange with Communist China in particular, and including East Germany, North Korea, Bulgaria and North Viet Nam. Since the Department of Agriculture Library acquires 70% of its publications through an aggressive exchange program, denial of this possibility in the five countries mentioned deprives his Department of much significant information in such fields as agriculture, botany, irrigation, animal diseases, etc. There was considerable

discussion, the State member in particular calling attention to the role of his Department, the National Security Council Document 5427 pertinent to exchange, and the whole problem of releasing information to countries not formally recognized by the United States. The Chairman suggested that each member determine the position of their respective departments as to whether PROCIB should undertake a study of this matter. The Chairman was directed to write to the Director of Intelligence and Research, Department of State, requesting an official ruling on the problem. (Note: The substance of the letter was checked by the Secretary with all representatives present at the seventh meeting. Copies of the letter have been distributed with these minutes.)

3. Procurement of Hard to Get Items. The Chairman called attention to the correspondence between the Chairman of the USIB Exploitation Committee and himself on the subject of the Procurement of Critical Far East Publications. Copies of the correspondence had been distributed to the members. [REDACTED] of the CIA Library Acquisitions Branch, gave a progress report on the action taken to date. The Chairman urged that the Acquisitions Branch be checked before putting in special requirements for the procurement of hard to get items, especially by covert means.

25X1A9a

4. Status Report on P.L. 480 Program. The National Science Foundation member reported that the Foundation had received authorization from the Bureau of the Budget [REDACTED] for the translation of retrospective, scientific publications. The contract between the two countries concerned is being signed. Discussions are underway with Poland, Yugoslavia, Indonesia and India, with Finland a future possibility. The Library of Congress member had nothing to report at this time; the Chairman stated that CIA is conferring with the Library of Congress and the State Department on this subject.

5. Proposed Exchange of USSR-USA Librarians. The Agriculture member reported his proposal to the USIB Committee on Exchanges recommending that the three national librarians (Mumford-Library of Congress, Rogers-National Library of Medicine, and Mohrhardt-Department of Agriculture) exchange visits with USSR counterparts. There is also a broader exchange between these two countries, being recommended by the American Library Association. The action on these proposals was with the Committee on Exchanges. A check with the Secretary of that Committee indicates that it has endorsed the proposal from the intelligence point of view and has recommended it for approval to the East-West Contact Staff in the Department of State.

SECRET

C-O-X-F-I-D-E-X-T-I-A-L

3

6. Status Report on Evaluation Studies. The State Department reported that contributions to these evaluations have not yet been received from Air and Army components.

7. USIB Holdings of USSR Serial Publications. The Chairman reported that the CIA Library was unable to get out its consolidated listing of USIB holdings of USSR serial publications until all contributions have been received. No contribution has yet been received from the Army; the revised contribution from State has not been received, and ABC reported that it had nothing to contribute in the way of titles. In connection with the discussion, the Air member suggested that coordinated want lists be prepared, incorporating items needed by the various member agencies. The Chairman agreed to the merit of the proposal and requested that each member submit a want list to the Secretary, with emphasis on Sovibloc coverage first, world-wide later. The want lists should be in by 10 March 1952. The CIA Library will check the want lists to ensure that the items listed are unavailable in Washington. It was suggested that such want lists be issued regularly.

8. Library of Congress. The Chairman called attention to a useful Library of Congress publication recently issued by it and available from it: A List of Institutions in the Soviet Union with Which the Library of Congress Exchanges Publications. There was discussion relative to the possibility of issuing a consolidated list of U.S. national library exchanges. When the magnitude of the problem was revealed (the Library of Congress has some 17,000 exchanges alone, for example) the idea was discarded. The Chairman gave a brief report of a joint experiment being conducted by the Library of Congress and the U.S. Joint Publications Research Service in the preparation of a proposed Monthly Index of Chinese Acquisitions. He alerted the members to the possibility that they will be asked to contribute towards the expenses involved in this project, currently estimated at about \$230,000 per year.

9. Association of Research Libraries. The Chairman reported that he and the Secretary attended the recent meeting in Chicago of the Association of Research Libraries, where the main topic of discussion was ways and means to improve the Farmington Plan. This is a cooperative acquisitions program whereby each of the participating libraries has been assigned areas and fields of responsibility for the procurement of significant publications in that area. CIA has offered cooperation to the extent possible in this important program of backstopping research.

C-O-X-F-I-D-E-X-T-I-A-L

10. Proposed Trip by Chairman, etc. The Chairman announced that he was leaving on a trip to Europe in mid-May, 1959, and offered his services on appropriate requirements. Among other places, he will survey the publishing industry in Northern Italy, and will attend the International Conference on Information Processing sponsored by UNESCO in Paris. At this meeting, the most recent machine translating device for translating from French will be demonstrated. The Chairman then gave a brief progress report on machine translation in general. Greater speed in Russian to English is now a definite achievement, and there is progress on Chinese to English.

25X1A9a

[REDACTED]

Secretary